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U.S. House of Representatives

SUBCOMMITTEE ON POSITION CLASSIFICATION

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20515

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 29, 1970

Congressman James M. Hanley (D.-N.Y.) announced today that the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service reported favorably H.R. 13008, the Job Evaluation Policy Act of 1970.

Hanley, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Position Classification, said that "H.R. 13008 is a landmark piece of legislation which will begin the process of developing major reforms in the classification systems of the Federal Government."

The Subcommittee on Position Classification has been working on the difficult area of Federal job evaluation systems for three years. Almost a year ago the Subcommittee issued their "Report on Job Evaluation and Ranking in the Federal Government" which is one of the most comprehensive studies of classification systems ever conducted by any branch of the Government.

H.R. 13008 is a direct outgrowth of that report.

The bill provides the general framework for the reform of position classification systems throughout the executive branch of the Federal Government. It does not change existing classification laws, but establishes the basic guidelines within which the Civil Service Commission shall prepare legislation to be presented the Congress within two years after date of enactment.

H.R. 13008, as amended, states the sense of Congress that, to the greatest extent possible, there should be a coordinated

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classification plan applicable to all positions in the executive branch, utilizing various methods of position classification, under the general supervision of the Civil Service Commission.

The Commission is given the authority to study all executive branch classification systems, including those not currently under its jurisdiction. The plan will be developed by a separate unit within the Commission and responsible directly to the Commissioners. Provisions are made for effective consultation with Congress, departments and agencies, employee unions, and professional organizations throughout the development of the plan. H.R. 13008 requires that the Commission report to Congress within two years after date of enactment, after which the special unit will be abolished.

An amendment recommended by the Subcommittee and adopted by the Full Committee requires that the Commission file monthly progress reports to the House and Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committees. In his report to the Committee, Hanley said that this approach would be "the most effective way to assure objectivity on the part of the Commission."

Hanley assured all employee and professional organizations that his subcommittee would work closely with the Commission to assure that all views would be seriously considered.

"The Subcommittee on Position Classification intends to use this provision as the foundation for monthly hearings on the progress of the Commission's activities. During the course of these regular hearings, all interested organizations will be asked to testify on the development of the Commission's recommendations, and this testimony

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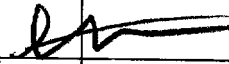
will be made public."

"H.R. 13008 represents the first legislative step toward major and meaningful reform of our classification systems," Hanley said. "Job classification is a complex matter which has serious implications both for departments and agencies which must organize work efficiently and to employees whose entire careers can hinge on the classification of their positions. Classification is extremely important in the efficient use of our tax dollars. Therefore, I am very pleased that we are on the threshold of significant reforms in this vital area of personnel management."

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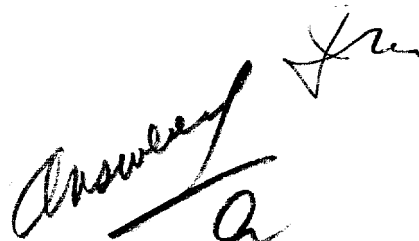
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